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INTERIM 2013-14 FLU VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS

This week's MMWR includes the <u>interim estimates</u> of 2013-14 seasonal flu vaccine effectiveness (VE) in the U.S. Study results indicate that flu vaccination offered substantial protection against the flu this season, reducing a vaccinated person's risk of having to go to the doctor for flu by about 61% across all ages. VE against H1N1, the predominant circulating strain, was estimated to be 62% for all ages.

WHO RELEASES 2014-15 FLU VACCINE STRAIN SELECTION

Yesterday, the World Health Organization released their recommendation for the influenza strains to be included in the 2014-15 Northern Hemisphere vaccines. They recommended to keep the same strains for 2014-15 as those in the 2013-14 seasonal flu vaccines:

- A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
- A/Texas/50/2012 (H3N2)-like virus;
- B/Massachusetts/2/2012-like virus;
- B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus [quadrivalent only]

FLU AT UPCOMING ACIP MEETING - FEBRUARY 26-27

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is February 26-27. Flu is scheduled first on the agenda February 26 and will include mid-season vaccine effectiveness estimates, comparisons of LAIV vs. IIV in children, and a vote on proposed recommendations. To view the live stream, visit CDC's ACIP website.

SEASONAL INFLUENZA ACTIVITY

Influenza activity decreased but remained elevated in the U.S. 'Widespread' activity was reported by 17 states, and 'regional' was reported by 22 states including Michigan.

Michigan News

• Flu takes life of St. Joseph County man

National News

- MMWR: Influenza-associated ICU admissions and deaths in California, Sep 29, 2013-Jan 18, 2014
 - o 405 severe cases in those <65 years, 94 were fatal
 - o More than any season since 2009 pandemic
- MMWR: <u>Update: Influenza activity U.S., Sep 29, 2013-</u> Feb 8, 2014
- CDC's FluView (week ending February 15, 2014)
 - 52 flu-associated pediatric deaths have been reported for the 2013-14 season

AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9) NEWS AND ARTICLES

A report from the World Health Organization put the global outbreak total at 355 cases and 112 deaths since February 2013. In other news, in spring 2013 H7N9 was isolated from an apparently healthy tree sparrow in Shanghai, highlighting the need to monitor H7N9 in different bird species. In Hong Kong, surveillance of local chicken farms has found no H7 viruses. They reopened a poultry market where H7N9 was detected in live chickens imported from China but are keeping in place a suspension of live poultry imports.

- WHO: <u>Human infection with H7N9 update</u> (Feb. 18)
- FAO rules out human-to-animal transmission of H7N9
- China city closes poultry markets to stop bird flu
- Vietnam bans Chinese poultry as H7N9 reaches border
- Virology: Rapid adaptation of H7N9 virus in pigs

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AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H5N1) NEWS ARTICLES

- 3rd new human case of avian influenza H5N1 in Cambodia in 2014
- China confirms H5N1 outbreak in poultry
- Vietnamese bird flu outbreak spreads to eight provinces

INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Influenza vaccine deemed safe for children with HIV
- Well-child visits increased risk for subsequent influenzalike illnesses

OTHER INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS

- Rhode Island parents battle over mandatory flu vaccine proposal
- <u>National Influenza Vaccination Disparities Partnership</u>
 Newsletter January 2014

FLU WEBSITES

www.michigan.gov/flu www.cdc.gov/flu www.flu.gov http://vaccine.healthmap.org/